

### CLAIMS

1. Method for fault management of electronic ballast for at least one gas discharge lamp comprising the steps of: preheating the lamp filaments applying a low current for a predetermined time; igniting the lamp by increasing at a predetermined increasing rate the voltage applied up to a predetermined strike value; characterised by monitoring the lamp current; repeating the steps of igniting the lamp and monitoring the lamp current for a predetermined numbers of times if the lamp current is over a predetermined threshold; powering the lamp at normal operating conditions.
2. Method for fault management of electronic ballast according to claim 1 characterised in that the step of repeating the steps of igniting the lamp and monitoring the lamp current for a predetermined numbers of times if the lamp current is over a predetermined threshold does not comprise the step of preheating the lamp filaments.
3. Method for fault management of electronic ballast according to claim 1 characterised in that in the case after having repeated the steps of igniting the lamp and monitoring the lamp current for a predetermined numbers of times the lamp does not work correctly said electronic ballast is turned off.
4. Method for fault management of electronic ballast according to claim 1 characterised in that in the case of fault during lamp working all the steps of claim 1 are executed.
5. Method for fault management of electronic ballast according to claim 4 characterised in that if the fault during lamp working occur a predetermined number of times said electronic ballast is turned off.
6. Method for fault management of electronic ballast according to claim 1 characterised in that in the case of lamp removal all the steps of claim 1 are executed.



"Fault management method for electronic ballast".

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ABSTRACT

5 The present invention relates to the managing of lamp fault conditions in electronic ballasts for one or more gas discharge lamps.

10 The method for fault management of electronic ballast for at least one gas discharge lamp comprises the steps of: preheating the lamp filaments applying a low current for a predetermined time; igniting the lamp by increasing at a predetermined rate the voltage applied up to a predetermined strike value; characterised by monitoring the lamp current; repeating the steps of igniting the lamp and monitoring the lamp current for a predetermined numbers of times if the lamp current is over a predetermined threshold; powering the lamp at normal operating conditions.

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